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REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 10, and 11 have been amended. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12 are pending and under consideration.

In the Office Action, at page 3, paragraph 1, the Examiner indicated that claim 12 is allowed.

Additionally, in the Office Action, at page 3, paragraph 2, the Examiner indicated that claims 1-11 would be allowable if amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112:

In the Office Action, at page 2, paragraph 2, the Examiner rejected claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention, for the reasons set forth therein. The reasons for the rejection are set forth in the Office Action and therefore not repeated. Applicant traverses this rejection and respectfully requests reconsideration.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to change the word "includes" to "has." Similarly, independent claims 10 and 11 have been amended to change the word "including" to "having."

Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to claims 1, 10, and 11 overcome the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, and are now allowable. Further, Applicant respectfully submits that, claims 2-9, which depend from independent claim 1, are also now allowable.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot, and further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the cited art. Thus, there being no further

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outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date 06 May 2004

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